

STATE HISTORICAL
SOCIETY OF IOWA
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

The Annals of Iowa

Volume 9 | Number 2 (1909)

pps. 157-158

John F. Hopkins

ISSN 0003-4827

Material in the public domain. No restrictions on use.



This work has been identified with a [Creative Commons Public Domain Mark 1.0](https://creativecommons.org/publicdomain/zero/1.0/).

Recommended Citation

"John F. Hopkins." *The Annals of Iowa* 9 (1909), 157-158.

Available at: <https://doi.org/10.17077/0003-4827.3560>

Hosted by [Iowa Research Online](https://iowaresearchonline.org/)

JOHN F. HOPKINS was born October 4, 1821, in Marion county, Ohio; he died at Madrid, Iowa, April 19, 1909. His father, Robert Hopkins, was a veteran of the war of 1812 and a member of the General Assembly of Ohio. His early educational advantages were meagre, but he was a great student and gained a wide knowledge through reading, experience and observation. In 1849 he made an overland trip to California, where he remained two years. He removed to Iowa about 1854, settling in Boone county. Mr. Hopkins represented Boone county in the House of the Thirteenth General Assembly and was instrumental in securing the appropriation for the present State capitol. He was for six years a member of the board of supervisors of Boone county. He was a member of the Pioneer Lawmakers' Association, of the Octogenarian Association of the State, and took a prominent part in the organization of the Old Settlers' Association.

JOHN DAVID NICHOLS was born in Leeds county, Canada, July 22, 1834; he died at Vinton, Iowa, June 20, 1909. When a boy he was apprenticed for seven years to a wagon maker. Finishing his trade before his time had expired, he purchased his release, and was for a time a sailor on the lakes. He studied for the ministry, and was ordained and preached for several years. He came to Henry county, Iowa, in 1857, where he resided until 1863, when he removed to Urbana, Benton county. In 1870 he removed to Vinton, where he studied law with Traer and Gulchrist, and was admitted to the bar in 1872, forming a partnership with Robert St. Clair. He remained in active practice until 1897, the later years of which were in partnership with his son. He served as school director and as mayor of Vinton, and was a member of the Iowa Senate from Benton county in the 17th, 18th and 19th General Assemblies.

WILLIAM SPENCER HALL was born in Sutton, Merrimac county, N. H., April 8, 1823; he died at Onslow, Iowa, April 8, 1909. His boyhood was spent in Michigan and he received his education in the Kalamazoo branch of the University of Michigan. In 1841 he came to Iowa, settling in Dubuque, where he engaged in mining for three years. He removed to Cascade in 1844, and entered the mercantile and real estate business. After a residence of thirty-three years in Cascade, in 1877, Mr. Hall removed to Onslow, Jones county. He served for twelve years as postmaster of Cascade, from 1848 to 1860, and in 1854 was elected representative of Dubuque county in the Fifth General Assembly, and also served in the special session of 1856.

CAPT. MILTON P. RUSSELL was born in North Salem, Hendricks county, Indiana, September 25, 1836; he died in Oakland, Cal., July 2, 1908. He enlisted in the 51st Indiana Regiment October 11, 1861, as a private, but was soon elected first sergeant. He later became First Lieutenant and afterwards Captain. He was in the battles of Shiloh, Murfreesboro, Stone River, and commanded the forces that opposed Mosby. He was captured in May, 1863, and put in Libby prison, from which he escaped through the tunnel. He was recaptured, but later succeeded in getting away. He was discharged May 11, 1865. Soon after the war he removed to Iowa,

residing first at Mitchellville, where he engaged in the grain business. He came to Des Moines about the year 1870. In 1889 he became a member of the board of park commissioners, and during his administration the present park system was planned. He was at one time commander of the Iowa Department, G. A. R. Few men in Polk county were better known, and none had more friends.

JOHN COZIER SANDS was born at Fakenham Norfolk, England, February 8, 1815; he died March 7, 1909, at Belmond, Wright county, Iowa. He was a private in the English volunteers brought into Canada in 1835 to put down the Papineau Rebellion. After a service for four years, he attended Grand Ligne Academy for three years; thereafter taking the course in theology at Yale, graduating in 1847. From his residence in Essex, Vermont, where he was ordained and served as pastor of a Congregational church for nine years, he migrated to Keosauqua, Iowa. He served as chaplain of the 19th Iowa Infantry throughout the war. He removed to Belmond in 1869. In 1871 he was elected county superintendent. He served as chaplain of his Grand Army Post from its organization until his death. He was a thorough scholar of Greek, Hebrew and French, as well as English; a preacher and teacher throughout his life.

RUTH MCPHERSON MORRIS was born in Grayson county, Virginia, August 22, 1806; she died March 11, 1909, at the home of her granddaughter, Mrs. Anna McPherson Edworthy, Des Moines, Iowa. She was a daughter of John Carey, a Quaker, who removed to Hillsboro, Ohio, in 1816. She was married at twenty-five to Joseph McPherson, and to them were born two children, Daniel and Mary. At sixty she was married to Zadok Morris, who died seventeen years later. In 1900 she removed to Des Moines, thereafter residing with Mrs. Edworthy. She has a brother, Dr. Isaac Carey, residing at Marion, Indiana, at the age of ninety-six. There also reside a grandson, a granddaughter, a great-great-grandson and a great-great-granddaughter. She has a sister, Peninah Townsend, aged eighty-five, residing at 853 Barr Street, Cincinnati, Ohio. She was the oldest White Ribboner in the world at her death.

EDWARD AMES TEMPLE was born at Lebanon, Illinois, September 23, 1831; he died at Orlando, Florida, his winter home, February 12, 1909. He was a son of Major George Temple, a territorial legislator of Burlington, Iowa. He was a clerk in the Federal land office at Fairfield, and thereafter at Chariton, Iowa. He acquired land from the government at \$1.25 an acre on which he laid out the town of Mt. Ayr, Iowa, disposing of the last of his lands there some six years ago. He followed a similar course near Council Bluffs, Iowa, and Portland, Oregon, closing out his real estate business soon after forming, with Mr. Simon Casady, the Bankers Life Association, in Des Moines, in 1879. Of this company he became the President and so remained until his death. In his will he made a bequest of \$1,000 for the purpose of placing a tablet in the Historical Building to the memory of his father and certain other Iowa pioneers.

Copyright of *Annals of Iowa* is the property of State of Iowa, by & through the State Historical Society of Iowa and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.